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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/511,347

Examiner

Jimmy T. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

BORJESSON ET AL.

Art Unit

3725

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment after-final filed 8/2/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 14-18 and 21-28.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

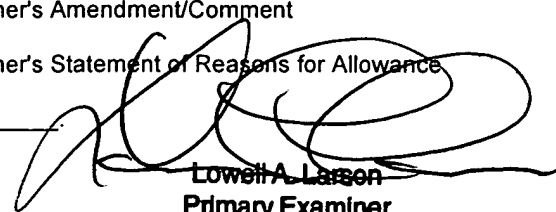
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Lowell A. Larson
Primary Examiner

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Ulf Ekernas on August 11, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 22, paragraph (g), line 2:

After the word "wherein", the following words having been added --- the casing of the screw compressor is a water-tight casing, which is impervious to liquid in an entire area between the inlet end and the outlet end so that ----.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14-18 and 21-28 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 14, the claim is allowable because the art of record, considered alone or in combination, neither anticipates nor renders obvious a screw compressor comprising: *a water-tight-casing, which is impervious to liquid in an entire area between the inlet end and the outlet end and the screw compressor is arranged so that the liquid is supplied to the matter only when the matter has reached a dry content of at least the liquid is supplied to the matter only when the*

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matter has reached a dry content of at least 35%, in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations.

Regarding claim 22, the claim is allowable because the art of record, considered alone or in combination, neither anticipates nor renders obvious a method for compressing and washing matter in a screw compressor comprising the step of: *additional compressing of the wet matter with a dry content of at least 35% after the supplying of washing agent, wherein the casing of the screw compressor is a water-tight-casing, which is impervious to liquid in an entire area between the inlet end and the outlet end so that the washing agent that is supplied to the wet matter with a dry content of at least 35% is pressed axially backwards through the screw compressor towards the inlet end of the screw compressor*, in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations.

US 2,355,091 McDonald discloses a screw compressor as claimed in claim 14 except for the casing is not the water-tight casing that is impervious to liquid in an entire area between the inlet end and the outlet end. Additionally, this reference also does not teach the liquid is supplied to the matter only when the matter has reached a dry content of at least 35%.

WO96/30198 to Borjesson discloses a screw compressor as claimed in claim 14 except for a conduit for liquid supply arranged inside the screw and provided with a mouth on the outside of the screw so that liquid can be fed through the screw. Because this reference does not disclose the conduit for liquid supply, it does not teach "the liquid supplied to the matter when the matter has reached a dry content of at least 35%".

Although, McDonald discloses a conduit for liquid supply arranged inside the screw and provided with a mouth on the outside of the screw so that liquid can be fed through the screw,

and Borjesson discloses the casing is a water-tight casing that is impervious to liquid in an entire area between the inlet end and the outlet end, there is no motivation to combine the references and such would be impermissible hindsight. Furthermore, neither reference discloses or fairly suggests, the liquid is supplied to the matter only when the matter has reached a dry content of at least 35%. Thus claim 14 contains allowable subject matter over the art of record. The method claim 22 is also allowable for the similar reason as claim 14.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jimmy T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4520. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur 8:00am - 6:30pm.

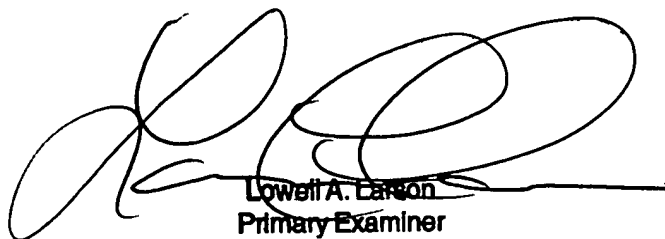
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on (571) 272- 4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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JTNguyen
August 11, 2006



Lowell A. Carlson
Primary Examiner